



Washington issues RFI for integration solution

On October 24, the Washington Justice Information Network (JIN) issued a request for information (RFI) for a statewide integration solution. The RFI, which is posted on the Department of Information Services Procurement Page (<http://techmall.dis.wa.gov/procurement/procurement.asp?pid=64>) asks product vendors and systems integrators to help the state articulate a detailed plan for achieving its goal of improving public safety in Washington through the integration of various systems and the efficient sharing of information within the justice community.

“There’s a tremendous level of expertise in a rapidly developing marketplace that we need to leverage,” says JIN Program Director, Brian LeDuc. “In today’s world, information sharing in the justice community can promote public safety, and at the same time, improve efficiency at every level.”

The RFI asks respondents to assist the state in developing an integration plan addressing the following questions:

- ♦ What are the functional capabilities and technical components of an integration solution?
- ♦ What are the initial procurement costs, implementation costs, and total cost of ownership of an integration solution?

“We’ve got a number of projects in various stages of development,” says LeDuc “but they don’t fit into a larger, more unified vision of where we want to be. Having that defined is crucial to achieving our goals and to empowering local entities to proceed independently. When a county can see what the long-term plans for the state are, it makes it so much easier for them to feel confident in pursuing their own initiatives and in ultimately achieving closer integration with the justice community.”

The RFI, which LeDuc sees as a key element in creating next September’s report to the Governor, Legislature and Supreme Court, which is required by the recently enacted JIN Act (http://www.leg.wa.gov/pub/billinfo/2003-04/House/1600-1624/1605-s_sl_05142003.txt) calls for responses to be filed by December 19. The JIN Technical Advisory Group will then invite selected respondents to make oral presentations in January 2004, with the aim of selecting one to conduct a pilot or proof-of-concept to demonstrate the viability of its proposed solution.

The project is sufficiently large and the market sufficiently competitive that LeDuc believes that the RFI’s goals can be achieved at little or no cost to the state: “Similar efforts in other states have yielded promising results and I’ve already received several expressions of intent to respond from industry leaders. I’m confident that this is the best way for Washington to proceed and that we can be a leader and an innovator in the rapidly expanding area of justice integration.” ♦



Alabama Agencies Embrace New System

It's not even a year old, but Alabama's integrated information technology system for courts and law enforcement already has thousands of users. (View full article at <http://www.fcw.com/geb/articles/2003/1020/web-alabama-10-21-03.asp>)

Current Projects Tackle Integration

Sharing and integrating information across government organizations is the focus of three current CTG projects. They look at the social, policy, management, and technology issues of how public sector organizations grapple with barriers to sharing data and integrating systems. (View full article at http://it.ojp.gov/documents/CTG_innovations_2003_summer.pdf)

Department Of Justice Releases Security Tool For Justice Information

(<http://it.ojp.gov/documents/asp/>)

Colorado pilots the first pro se e-filing system for low-income citizens.

Colorado is trying to make life a little easier for self-represented, or *pro se*, litigants in civil matters. Through an innovative public/private/nonprofit partnership, the state is conducting an e-filing pilot designed to open the civil justice system to Colorado residents who can't afford legal representation. (View full article at <http://www.govtech.net/magazine/story.php?id=79907>)

Grant Listings Hit Internet

A central portal providing information on government grant opportunities launched today, and the first application has already been sent online, officials said. (View full article at <http://www.fcw.com/geb/articles/2003/1208/web-grants-12-09-03.asp>)

Measuring Progress: A Summary of Key Milestones in Justice Integration

Justice agencies and organizations throughout the U.S. are busy reinventing the way they do business through automated information sharing and integration. State justice entities are realizing that to effectively administer justice, enhance efficiency in process, and leverage scarce resources, they must work as an enterprise and conduct business electronically in ways they may not have in the past. (View full article at <http://www.search.org/publications/pdffiles/milestones.pdf>)

WSP Makes DUI Records Available Online

The Washington State Patrol today unveiled a new on-line database containing records of DUI breath tests. The Web site was developed to provide the courts, (View full media release at <http://www.wsp.wa.gov/newsfaqs/releases/nr110303.pdf>)